

Call to Order

Vice President Bunting called the Special Meeting to order at 9:58 a.m. The following State Board members were present: Nina Lou Bunting, Gregory B. Coverdale, Jr., Barbara Rutt, and Terry Whittaker. Deputy Attorney General Valerie Dunkle and State Board Executive Director Donna Johnson were also in attendance.

Review Recommendations from Joint Legislative Oversight and Sunset Committee Discuss and Approve Responses to Recommendations from Joint Legislative Oversight and Sunset Committee

Ms. Johnson reviewed each of the recommendations from the JLOSC and the action taken by the Committee. Board members received draft responses to those recommendations prior to the meeting. Ms. Johnson and Ms. Dunkle discussed the Board's Procedures Manual and it was suggested that Appeals Procedures (Appendix B) may need to be placed into regulation, separate from the Manual. The Board was in agreement to begin regular monthly meetings at 5 p.m. beginning in July 2017 and to rotate its meeting location to each county. The annual meeting in July will remain in the Cabinet Room in Dover as required by statute. Presentation Sessions will be scheduled as needed to provide overview of issues and deep dives on educational topics.

The Board recessed from 10:42 a.m. to 10:49 a.m.

The Board discussed its public comment policy and decided to place public comment after discussion on regulations and presentations so comment may be given on any items. Ms. Dunkle noted that this is consistent with other Boards. Ms. Johnson reported that in response to the JLOSC recommendation on notifying citizens of State Board actions and information on the State Board that the State Board office reached out to the State Library and monthly Board Highlights will be distributed to all libraries from the State Library. The Board will also reach out to all stakeholders receiving the monthly updates with an information sheet on the State Board in July.

The Board discussed draft statutory language for the removal of a Board member and adding two additional non-voting members to the Board. The Board reviewed revisions to the job description of its Executive Director and discussed placing clarification into Code but not the full job description of the Executive Director in Code. This is consistent with practice of other Boards.

The Board discussed revisions to its procedure regarding Policy Development, which would include adopting a public education positions document and amended as needed with positions on new items and/or legislation. There was discussion on the Board's public education positions that addressed various issues. The Public Education Position document will be revised based on the discussion and brought forward for action at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rutt, seconded by Mr. Coverdale to approve the draft statutory language on removal of a Board member to be submitted to the JLOSC. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rutt, seconded by Dr. Whittaker to adopt the revised job description for the Executive Director and revisions regarding the position in the Procedures Manual. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker, seconded by Mrs. Bunting to approve the draft statutory language on location of State Board meetings for submission to the JLOSC. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rutt, seconded by Dr. Whittaker to approve the change for State Board regular meetings to begin at 5:00 p.m. or later, beginning July 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker, seconded by Mr. Coverdale to approve the revised public comment procedure which places public comment following the presentations and action items, for submission to the JLOSC. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. Bunting, seconded by Mrs. Rutt to approve the response to JLOSC outlining the communication from the Board which includes sending the monthly highlights out to stakeholders and includes the State Librarian for dissemination to all libraries. The State Board Office will also send out meetings dates and information on the State Board in July. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rutt, seconded by Dr. Whittaker to adopt the revised Policy Development procedure of the State Board for inclusion in the Procedures Manual. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. Bunting, seconded by Mrs. Rutt to approve the draft statutory language on adding two additional non-voting members for submission to the JLOSC. The Board is requesting that this begin in July of 2018 in order to develop details and procedures. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Coverdale, seconded by Dr. Whittaker to restate its position to the JLOSC on the recommendation pertaining to charter schools and local buy in as it is not solely the State Board's statutory responsibility. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board was notified that it was on the agenda for the JLOSC meeting scheduled for April 27, 2017.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rutt to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.